

## **HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES**

### **SENIOR SERVICES BRANCH**

#### **DIVISION OF SENIOR BENEFITS AND UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT**

##### **OFFICE OF SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THE AGED**

**N.J.A.C. 8:83-6.2, 8:83A-4.2, 8:83B-5.2 and 8:83D-6.2**

#### **Notice of Administrative Changes**

**Income Eligibility Limits for 2006 Pertaining to Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD) Eligibility Manual, Lifeline Credit Program/Tenants Lifeline Assistance Program Manual and Hearing Aid Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (HAAAD) Manual**

**Income Eligibility Limits for 2006 Pertaining to the Senior Gold Prescription Program Manual**

**Take notice** that, effective January 1, 2006, the Department of Health and Senior Services is changing the Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD) Program Eligibility Manual (N.J.A.C. 8:83-6.2) to reflect the new eligibility limits of \$21,850 for single persons and \$26,791 of combined income for married couples. The 2005 limits were \$20,989 for single persons and \$25,735 of combined income for married couples. This adjustment of the eligibility limits is necessary due to the enactment of P.L. 1995, c. 27, which mandates a 4.1 percent increase, the same percentage as the maximum Social Security cost of living adjustment for 2006. In addition, the eligibility limits must be amended for the Lifeline Credit/Tenants Lifeline Assistance Program Manual (N.J.A.C. 8:83A-4.2) and the Hearing Aid Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (HAAAD) Manual (N.J.A.C. 8:83B-5.2) since any applicant who meets the eligibility requirements of the PAAD program also qualifies for these programs.

**Take further notice** that, effective January 1, 2006, the income limits for the Senior Gold Prescription Program are also being changed. Under N.J.A.C. 8:83D-6.2(a) and (b), the new limits will reflect the requirement that they be no more than \$10,000 above the applicable PAAD limits for single and married persons. Single persons must have an annual income between \$21,850 and \$31,850. Previously, the single income was between \$20,989 and \$30,989. Married persons must have an annual combined income between \$26,791 and \$36,791. Previously, the married income limit was between \$25,735 and \$35,735.

This notice of administrative changes is published in accordance with N.J.A.C. 8:83-6.2(m), 8:83A-4.2(j), 8:83B-5.2(i) and 8:83D-6.2(m)

**Full text** of the changed rules follows (additions indicated in boldface **thus**; deletions indicated in brackets [thus]):

**8:83-6.2      Income standards**

(a) Any single permanent resident of New Jersey who is 65 years of age or over or who is under 65 and over 18 years of age and is receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits must have an annual income of less than [\$20,989] **\$21,850** to be eligible for PAAD.

(b) Any married permanent resident of New Jersey who is 65 years of age or over or who is under 65 and over 18 years of age and is receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits must have a combined (applicant and spouse) annual income of less than [\$25,735] **\$26,791** to be eligible for PAAD.

1.-2. (No change.)

(c)-(m) (No change.)

**8:83A-4.2      Income standards**

(a) Any single permanent resident of New Jersey who is 65 years of age or who is under 65 and over 18 years of age and is receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits must have an annual income of less than [\$20,989] **\$21,850** to be eligible for Lifeline.

(b) Any married permanent resident of New Jersey who is 65 years of age or who is under 65 and over 18 years of age and is receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits must have a combined (applicant and spouse) annual income of less than [\$25,735] **\$26,791** to be eligible for Lifeline.

1.-2. (No change.)

(c)-(j) (No change.)

**8:83B-5.2      Income standards**

(a) Any single permanent resident of New Jersey who is 65 years of age or over or who is under 65 and over 18 years of age and is receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits must have an annual income of less than [\$20,989] **\$21,850** to be eligible for HAAAD.

(b) Any married permanent resident of New Jersey who is under 65 and over 18 years of age and is receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits must

have a combined (applicant and spouse) annual income of less than [\$25,735] **\$26,791** to be eligible for HAAAD.

1.-2. (No change.)

(c)-(i) (No change.)

#### **8:83D-6.2 Income standards**

(a) Any single permanent resident of New Jersey who is 18 years of age or who is under 65 and over 18 years of age and is receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits must have a total annual income between [\$20,989] **\$21,850** and [\$30,989] **\$31,850** in [2005] **2006** to be eligible for Senior Gold benefits. These income limits will increase January 1 of each year in accordance with the Social Security cost of living adjustment. This amount shall not be more than \$10,000 above the applicable PAAD income eligibility limits for single persons. Recipients of other State-funded prescription discount benefits are not eligible for the Senior Gold Prescription Discount Program.

(b) Any married permanent resident of New Jersey who is 65 years of age or who is under 65 and over 18 years of age and is receiving Social Security Title II disability benefits must have a total annual income between [\$25,735] **\$26,791** and [\$35,735] **\$36,791** in [2005] **2006** to be eligible for Senior Gold benefits. The income limits will increase January 1 of each year in accordance with the Social Security cost of living adjustment. This amount shall not be more than \$10,000 above the applicable PAAD income eligibility limits for married couples. Recipients of other State-funded prescription discount benefits are not eligible for the Senior Gold Prescription Discount Program.

1.-2. (No change.)

(c)-(m) (No change.)